



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

*John
Kerins
Doug Palist*

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

MAR 14 2005

Mr. Ronald J. Borsellino
Division of Environmental Planning and Protection
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
25th Floor, 290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

Dear Mr. Borsellino:

This letter is to provide you with our most current maintenance dredging plans for the San Juan Harbor in Puerto Rico. In conversations between Mr. Reiss, of your staff, and Mr. Acosta, of my staff, it was agreed that a copy of the footprint for the dredging project to better define the sampling areas for the new bioassays and bioaccumulation testing would be provided. We understand that the sampling required this time would be somewhat more modest than our 1999 effort and we appreciate your cooperation.

Please find enclosed the project drawings showing those areas that are shallower than the authorized depths and which will be subject to dredging. These areas are colored in red inside the boundaries of the Federal Channel on plates 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, and 19. This information will assist your staff in determining sampling and testing requirements.

During our last Section 103 Extension Evaluation, we concluded that there were not significant spills of toxic materials during the last few years that could potentially affect the chemistry of the dredge material in the San Juan Harbor. We believe that most of the dredge material will be suitable for disposal at the San Juan Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site. This is in accordance with Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972.

Please address further communications to Mr. Ivan Acosta at telephone number (904) 232-1693.

Sincerely,

Dennis W. Barnett, P.E.
Acting Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

Copy Furnished (w.encl):

Mr. Mark Reiss, Division of Environmental Planning and Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II, 25th Floor, 290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007-1866